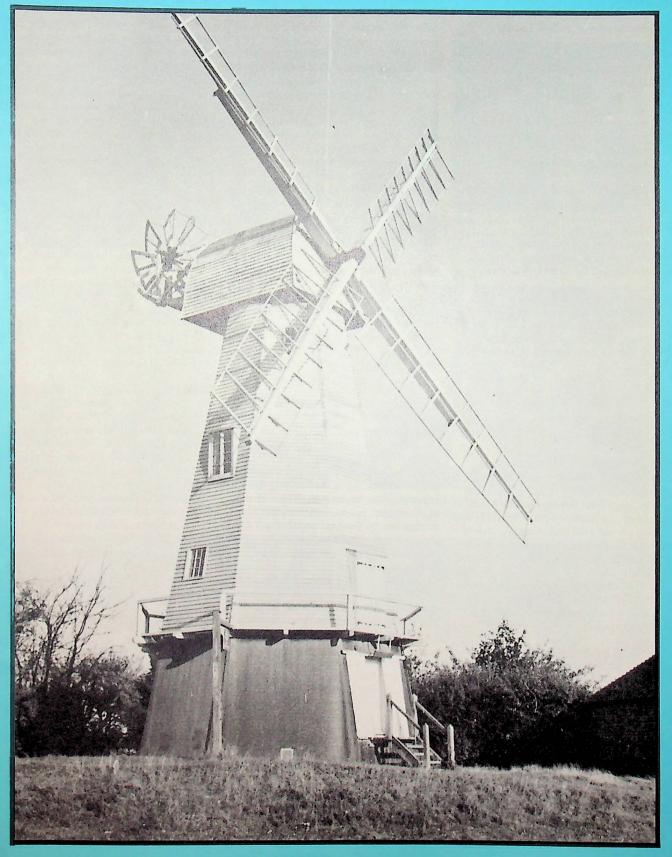
POINT THREE



The TocH magazine April 1978 10p



POINT THREE

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Letters and articles are welcomed and should be addressed to the Toc H Editorial Office, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks 1HP22 6BT (Telephone: 0296 623911). Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement.

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The cover picture is by Harold Collins of Weybridge Branch who has a collection of 430 windmill pictures. This is one at Chailey Heritage, near Lewes, Sussex. See also 'In Brief' item in this issue.



Toc H seeks to create friendship and understanding among people of all backgrounds and beliefs. Local group activities range from holidays for the handicapped and children's playschemes to arts festivals and even bird-watching. Toc H is short for Talbot House: the soldiers' club in Belgium founded by the Reverend 'Tubby' Clayton in 1915. Today Toc H provides opportunities for people to test the relevance of practical Christianity and we welcome anyone who would like to give us a try.

Members accept a four-fold commitment:

1. To build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man.

- 2. To give personal service.
- 3. To find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others.
- 4. To work for the building of that better world which has been called the Kingdom of God.

This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points — to think fairly.

VIEWPOINT

'I look upon ail the world as my parish' - John Wesley

I was delighted to learn that Dr Colin Morris, last year's Methodist Conference
President, is to become Head of BBC TV Religious Broadcasting. My first contact with
Methodists was during the last war and I have never forgotten it. I was taken to a
Methodists was during the last war and I have never forgotten it. I was taken to a
fellowship meeting by some of my students and was invited to speak. I was young, self
opinionated, bigoted: I was received with warmth, consideration, friendship.

It is just 250 years since two brothers, John and Charles Wesley, experienced the jolt of conversion and, in their different ways, set out to carry the good news to the poor everywhere. The world is a better place for the work of these remarkable sons of a Lincolnshire country rector. Charles wrote some 5,500 hymns. John — the 'evangelical centaur', as someone called him — rode tirelessly up and down the country, his saddlebags bursting with books and papers, reading, writing and preaching. He carried on these incredible journeys for 50 years and it is said that often as many as 30,000 people waited for hours to see and hear him. Most of his effort went into 'deprived areas' and the great majority of his converts were working men and women, including the new, miserable day labourers of the fast growing towns. He is said to have covered a quarter of a million miles and preached 40,000 sermons. His mass of writings earned him a fortune, all of which he gave away.

From the start, the Wesleys insisted on warm friendship, joy, high standards of behaviour, concern for the poor, democratic church government and a theological optimism that saw clearly — in those non-ecumenical days — that we could all reach perfection. They did not set out to found a new church. Indeed, the first Wesley group (founded by Charles and led by John) collected the nickname 'Methodist' because its members were so 'methodical' in their approach to the devotions of the Church of England. The brothers always meant to be loyal to the Church of England and John's Journal makes it clear that, to the time of his death, he saw Methodism as a movement within the Church. But Anglican pressures drove Methodists along another path. The 'Tory party at prayer' disliked their radicalism and distrusted their enthusiasm. The brothers were widely refused the chance to preach in church and very early John took to open air preaching in Bristol and set up there the first Methodist chapel.

It is not possible to assess accurately the size (let alone the effect!) of any of the Christian Churches. Each one has its own method of counting members and neither the population census nor any other official return deals with religious belief. Certainly, since the 1932 Union, the Methodist Church in Britain has been the largest of the Free Churches and claimed (in 1974) more than 600,000 full adult members. Other sources suggest that world wide membership is some 16 million, with well over two thirds of these in America. Historically, the results of this great fellowship have been impressive. The Methodist revival channelled into the 'reservoir of Christian experience' the near heroic efforts of countless thousands of devoted men and women in all forms of public work, in schools, in families, in the Labour and Trade Union movements, to the great enrichment of our national and international life.

The Wesleys saw Christianity more as a way of life than a pattern of organisation. John composed no body of doctrine and produced no original thought. But his preaching and his whole approach have affected us all. Methodism is a practical Christianity for ordinary men and women, a living faith of warmth and balance and order. This showed in Charles' hymns and very strongly in John's preaching — no subtle theology and none of the oratorical extravagance of Whitfield and the revivalist preachers. His sermons were usually short — about 20 minutes — and free of fanaticism or sentimentality. His Journal is a major work.

We in Toc H have much to learn from the great inheritance the Wesleys left us. Their 'presbyterian' type organisation with supreme authority resting with an annual Conference comprising equal numbers of ministers and laymen has a modern appeal. There is attraction in the idea of the weekly meeting designed to expand 'fellowship in Christian experience'. The whole Wesley emphasis is important to us. Recent figures show that, in the UK, our real incomes have more than doubled in the last 30 years. Perhaps our chief danger here, and in the whole Western world, is our affluence and the effect it has on us as persons. Wesley carefully balanced his 'Gain all you can' with his emphatic 'Give all you can'. Membership figures and accumulations of wealth are of much less importance to the Church and to Toc H than the daily acts of unselfish friendship for our brothers for the love of God which the Wesleys and Tubby Clayton alike enjoined. And, as Charles Wesley saw, we should sing about it:

'Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Rejoice, again, I say, rejoice.'

What's happening in CLWWDD2 Pantomania swept through Clwyd earlier this year when 14 volunteers met at Llanarmon yn lal branch room to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold.

Pantomania swept through Clwyd earlier this year when 14 volunteers met at Llanarmon yn Ial branch room to prepare a pantomime for patients at Coed Du Hospital, near Mold. Huw Gibbs explained that 'the idea was to present community work as fun and to challenge young people to reach decisions among themselves'. They came up in 24 hours with 'The Golden Wellie' and any resemblance to Cinderella was entirely coincidental! Theatr Clwyd entered into the spirit by loaning all the costumes, including a pantomime horse, and branches in Clwyd found the money for the project. Huw now plans further weekend activities and is hopeful that new youth groups will emerge in North Wales.



'Don't panic about lines – make it up!' A frantic rehearsal in progress at the Llanarmon Branch room.



A knockout combination. The hairy pantomime horse conceals volunteers from Flint High School and Joanna who turned out to be a versatile acrobatic dancer!



Two of the ugliest sisters in the business Paul and Simeon Tyrell from Ruthin.



'You shall go to the ball.' Project leader, Dave Worthington, as the Fat Fairy between Joanna Darriel and Paul Barter (Bryn Hyfryd School, Ruthin) and Julie Damrell (Hawarden High School).



Everybody dance!' The finale involved all the patients in the Prince's wedding ball. Later the nine section stage had to be returned to a local school in a snow blizzard.

A Padre's Points

Rev E J B Jones North Wales and North West Regional Padre

ARE YOU INVISIBLE?

For too many Christians the most sacred book in the Bible is the Book of Numbers! Yet statistics are notoriously unreliable. My greatest boyhood pal was the son of the local colliery manager and I was the son of the Congregational minister. We once got hopelessly bogged down over the number of miners we knew — he could only recognise them when their faces were black; I knew them only in their Sunday best!

It is said of a chemical works in the NW that any question the managing director asked about the personnel would be accurately answered by the new computer. 'Fine', he said, 'how many men on the plant have a knowledge of the Dutch language?' Back came the answer, 'Three'. 'Nonsense', he commented, 'I used to work here. It may well be that only three men have academic qualifications in Dutch — but I know another two who were born in Holland'!

However assiduously we gather the statistics – baptismal records, confirmation registers, electoral or other membership rolls – there are still those who only witness humbly, whose names are possibly known only to God.

It used to be said that 'to witness humbly' meant 'to spread the Gospel without preaching it'. The silent Christian can still achieve much. Fifty years ago there were 30 boys in a school dormitory, none of whom said his bedtime prayers. To their consternation, a new boy arrived on the second day of term - and actually knelt to say his prayers. Some 30 pillows were hurled at him from all around - but he went on with his prayers. This went on for the best part of a week. By the second week of term, although not a word had been said of the matter, those pillows would have been hurled at any boy who didn't say his prayers. (To my shame, I wasn't the boy of prayer - I chucked the first pillow!)

But 'to witness humbly' certainly does not mean that the Christian Toc H member should be inarticulate. As a parish priest I have attended far too many funerals where someone has said to me,



'I worked in the same office as this chapbut I never knew he was a churchgoer, or had anything to do with Toc H'. Humble witness need not be underground witness! We must — even if it involves talking about it — stand up and be counted; otherwise the case can be lost by default.

We can, of course, bear effective witness only to that which we have ourselves known. We may not be called to preach eloquently about it. But, at the same time, we may not be called to keep quiet about it. There is a happy medium which still qualifies as 'witnessing humbly' to the things that have changed our lives. We need men of integrity who will speak out - in the office, on the shop floor, in the village pub. What man is there in our own Movement who does not personally know at least a dozen others who would 'take to Toc H as a duck to water' but who (in a situation which we could ourselves so quietly remedy) either know nothing of our Movement, or believe it to be a secret society, an ex-Servicemen's organisation, or a consortium of club proprietors?

I like to think that that is how civilisation spread among my forefathers. When the Romans established colonies in Chester and Caernarvon and Caerleon, the Celts and the Iberians sent down spies from the wooded hills — and they returned home to report that these Romans enjoyed life of a higher and more satisfying quality. 'They don't waste time just hunting and knocking each other on the head', they said, 'but they engage in trade and live under something called Law. Let's try it out'.

Wild Celtic imaginings? Maybe. But may a padre confess that he wishes it were true of many a Toc H branch that he has known — that its members might fully realise their rights and responsibilities as 'colonists of heaven'. Then those who meet us in the life of our communities might reflect that 'these Toc H men are enjoying life of a higher and more satisfying quality. They are breaking down the things that divide man from man. Let's try it out. Let us, too, be like them'.

IN BRIEF.

- This month's cover picture is of the windmill at Chailey Heritage, near Lewes Sussex. Chailey is a combined hospital/ home for a large number of all types of severely physically handicapped children Many of those thalidomide children who could not live at home were brought up there. There is a long standing link between Chailey and Toc H which has shown itself over the years in a variety of ways. For example, Surrey District's annual holiday for physically handicapped children reserves places for Chailey residents. This year, one of the SE Region's projects will take volunteers into Chailey to give an enjoyable holiday to those children whose disabilities prevent them from going home. (See project No 34 in the 1978 Booklet.)
- Philip Thain, founder of Hull Toc H Action Group (TAG) has written to update us on Toc H youth activities in Yorkshire. The Yorkshire TAGs sprang up in Dinnington, Hull and Huddersfield from late 1976 onwards. They had their origins in meetings of volunteers who had worked on summer projects in the area. Scarborough now has a group and it is hoped that there will soon be one working in Bradford. Over 100 young people are now actively and regularly involved. Representatives of each TAG meet together bi-monthly as the Toc H Yorkshire Projects Group to discuss TAG development and to plan projects. They are planning a 'volunteers' conference' very soon. Their enthusiasm, their growth rate and their full incorporation in the Yorkshire part of the Toc H family all seem to be strong grounds for Philip's great optimism about the future.
- Deeside (Clwyd) Branch had a memorable day at Alison House when they presented ten bedside cabinets in memory of Flo Thomas. Flo was a founder member of the Women's Association and for many years a vigorous member of Deeside Branch, greatly loved and respected throughout N Wales for her gaiety and boundless energy. She died in 1976. The service at Alison House, the dedication of the gift and the whole day's programme were shared by a coachload of members and friends from Clwyd and several old friends from other parts of the country.
- Former teacher Lilian Dove of North Nottingham Joint Branch has just had an unusual celebration. For the past 12 years years, she has been a free lance writer. To mark the acceptance of her 500th manuscript she baked a cake (the icing showing the figure 500!) as the centre

piece for a branch celebration party. Her work has included children's stories, historical and topical features, country-side articles plus 184 general knowledge quizzes! She is currently working on a book about country churches. Sorry we missed the party, Lilian, but congratulations and good wishes from all the other slaves of the pen down here!

Congratulations to the members of Totnes (Devon) Women's Branch who for 20 years have provided a party and presents for the mentally handicapped children of the Royal Western Counties Hospital. We were delighted to see in the Totnes Times a public tribute to this work work by a local councillor who, with his wife, has helped with the party for the past two years.

TOCH AND ALL HALLOWS

This year sees the launching of an annual Toc H Service at All Hallows celebrating the life and ministry of Tubby Clayton. This will not be an occasion for nostalgia, but an opportunity to remind ourselves of the challenges which Tubby threw down to the Church and to us as individuals. Each year a leading Churchman will be invited to see this Service as an opportunity to issue a similar challenge to the Church and to Toc H.

The first of these Services will be on Saturday 30 September at 3pm and the preacher will be the Bishop of Buckingham. After the Service there will be an opportunity for us to meet each other over a cup of tea.

The Bishop of Buckingham is responsible for that part of the Diocese of Oxford in which Wendover comes, and we have had the privilege of welcoming him to Headquarters. We look forward to hearing his challenge and to acting on it in the coming year.

Make a note of the date now — Saturday 30 September — and plan to come to the central Church of Toc H then if you possibly can. Apart from anything else this is a chance for us to reaffirm the importance of the link between Toc H and All Hallows.

Family Matters



DRUDGERY IS THE DEATH OF LOVE

More and more people, I find, are going down under the plain old fashioned condition of overwork. Blame this high pressure society, making us do things we would never attempt if others weren't doing them or some power made us feel we must. Blame the fact that money isn't going near as far as it used to, and we have to earn more somehow. Blame anything and anybody, except a reason I heard fately that is plain heresy: 'the dignity of labour'.

We all know that work, by the sweat of the brow, is the curse of the fallen. It has a scriptural ring of sentence in it, working off the sin of Adam. We all know about the feast of Joseph the Worker, and how dirty hands don't make a man socially inferior.

But there is a difference between labour and slavery. The fine line seems to be very blurred, and religion is getting the blame. Women driven into the ground or the nearest hospital, looking after a family, pass it off as noble duty, when it's quite obvious they are victims of both selfishness and downright laziness. Ask them to stop and they can't; they're obsessed.

One thing you notice about the Saints; they had a lot to do, but they didn't flap. They were well organised, calm and, no matter what, could stop. Then start again in due time. They gave their time and their mind to God, and then let him allocate the rate. They knew the bliss of leisure, as well as the gruelling grind.

Any psychiatrist will verify that, in clinics, most cases of anxiety and depression are associated with unrelenting dedication to hard work. The body and mind can't take it. The result is a nervous breakdown. There must be regular breaks, regular working hours and 'holidays', whether we feel we need them or not. There must be outside interests, cultural or otherwise. Without these, life is an impoverished treadmill we often wish we were off.

Christ came that we might have life, and have it more abundantly. Reality can be grim without some gaiety. Relaxation is re-creation. If it is merely boredom then there is something seriously wrong.

It is not the will of God that anyone, be it man, woman or child, should be overworked, especially if it encourages laziness in others. Such conditions as endanger the health are an abuse, forbidden by moral law, unless absolutely unavoidable. Work is beneficial only if it has an end.

Unending unproductive work is the death of love — it produces resentment. It is injustice. Since for Christians, most of their work is a vocation, it must be kept humane; an example to others as to how to run their lives.

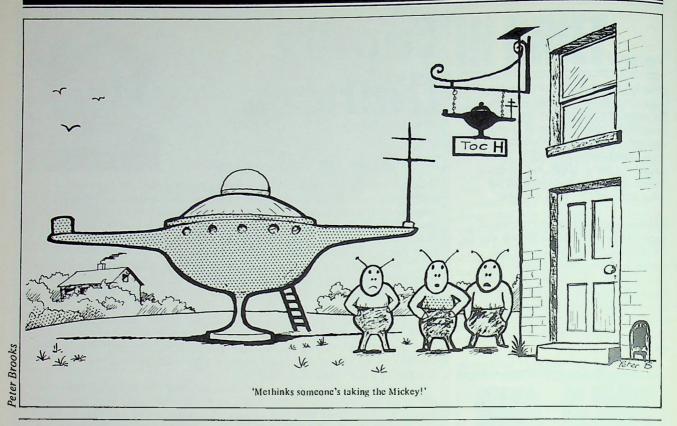
It is easier for a woman to become overworked. She is usually more conscientious and more driven by habit, she seeks solace in a familiar round, for her mental anxiety, unaware that she is wearing out her body.

One of the biggest indictments on the Catholic Church has been the way women died young, bearing great numbers of children, bringing them up and going quietly into an early grave. As one Catholic mother of ten said to me once: "What sort of children did she have, and what kind of man?"

Unselfishness makes the difference. Somebody caring and making sure one does not carry the burden for all. Plenty of non-Catholics had big families in the years before mass contraception. The individual home sets the seal on any argument. Many such parents lived happily into their eighties and beyond, having early trained the children, between them, to take their share of the load.

It is an effort, and a discipline, to gauge work to your limit. There is something heady and addictive about a heap of work just waiting to be done, when you're fresh and energetic. Damage comes when you go on long after you should have stopped, impelled by a drive not your own. All right now and again. Not as a way of life.

To prevent overwork, we must escape from unrelenting drudgery. It kills faith. Going on year after year, it kills the will to live, and destroys relationships. Confronted with too much, we must select our principles carefully, concentrate on what must be done; and dismiss the rest. The 'death of self' inherent in our Faith does not mean committing suicide.





Aylsham (Norfolk) Men's Branch have been collecting hundreds of unwanted keys and small metal toys for the Blue Peter Keynote Appeal. They just had to take on the task since their branch treasurer is Roy Key! The keys will be taken to London free of charge by Roadline (UK) Ltd and sold for scrap. Through the national appeal, it is planned to provide four specially equipped vans for deaf children and one of the vans is destined for Norfolk. The picture shows Roy with some of his collectors sorting their haul.

WELCOME

The following branches elected new members during February:

- 7 Denton (j)
- 3 Aquarius (Warrington) (j) Group, Southampton District
- 2 Barrow-on-Humber (j), Eastfield (j) Group, Edmonton (m), Hull Action (j) Group, Llandrindod Wells (j), Rushden Pytchley (w), Saughall (j)
- Birmingham District, Burraton (w),
 Castle Point (j) Group, Codsall (m),
 Codsall (w), Corwen (m), Crewkerne
 Crewkerne (j), Eltham (j), Hartley
 Wintney (m), Hythe (j), Leicester
 District, Leigh (j), Manchester
 Central (m), New Milton (j), Rosson-Wye (j), Somerton (j), South
 East Kent District, Stockport (m),
 Strode Park & Herne (j), Tower Hill
 (j), Wigmore & Rainham (m), Wolds
 District, Wyre Forest (j) Group

A warm welcome to 50 new members



Alone I walked through rocky vale and paused by thorny bower. My eyes on barren rock espied a bonny crimson flower.

While thunder crashed and hid the sun, the sky became an inky sea and in the tempest's darkest hour this crimson flower still smiled for me.

I stooped and drank its sweet perfume and touched its stem and petals rare. So humble was I in its light — small beautiful creation fair.

And often, when all hope seems lost, compassion's hand, nowhere is found, I think about my crimson flower and peace springs from the barest ground.





Ken Prideaux-Brune



A recent trip to the North East provided an opportunity of spending a day at the Friendship Circle in Thornaby. The growth of Friendship Circles is featured in the centre pages of this issue so I need not waste space giving the background to this new development. What seems to me the most significant fact about these Circles is that all who come to them, whether they come initially as 'helpers' or as 'patients' - and the distinction rapidly ceases to exist - feel themselves to be a part of the Family of Toc H and are anxious to play a part in it. Once again, through Toc H, those who need help are being challenged to offer help to others; and are responding to that challenge.

I hesitate to mention money again in this column, but my trip to the North East also enabled me to spend a stimulating afternoon with Bill Barnes, the Regional Chairman. One of the most effective methods of fund raising, according to Bill - and he should know; he tries most of them - is selling cards and gifts from catalogues through Webb, Ivory Ltd. Not only does this show a good return for the amount of effort involved - Bill made over £300 for Toc H last Christmas also makes a lot of new friends for the Movement. And that's just as important. If you would like to have a share in this method of building Toc H the address of Webb, Ivory Ltd is: FINE ART HOUSE, LITTLE CORNBOW, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS B63 3AG.

If there are members who still believe that young people are only interested in the service aspect of Toc II I wish they could have shared with me a Sunday morning discussion at Dor Knap attended by 30 prospective project leaders

from the South East Region. The depth of their understanding of the Movement, and the strength of their conviction that it has something essential to say to their generation, shone out clearly and undeniably. The privilege of sitting in on this discussion was an exciting and humbling experience.

I was glad to see in the new Signpost something which I suspect many of us have either forgotten or were unaware of, the statement on race relations issued by the Central Executive in 1954. I would ask you to have a look at that statement in your branch meeting — it appears at the end of the first section of the handbook — and discuss whether you as a group share the conviction of that Executive 'that discrimination on grounds of race is contrary to the will of God revealed in Jesus Christ'.

I write this at a time (in mid-February) when a number of senior politicians are making speeches which appear to be - although they are quite probably not meant to be - anti-Black. Already within the immigrant communities there are signs, naturally enough, of a withdrawal into the ghetto. The slow and patient work of people such as our own Peter East, in encouraging immigrants to mix more freely with the host community, is in danger of being undermined. Immigration policy is a right and proper subject for political debate, but unless the debate is conducted with a very high degree of sensitivity it can all too easily lead to greater polarisation between the races. In the coming months it is likely to be important that those of us who believe that Britain can and must remain a tolerant society, in which cultural diversity is seen as an asset rather than a threat, be prepared to stand up and be

'The year before she died, Queen Victoria, returning on her yacht from a visit to Ireland, was disturbed by rough seas. After one very heavy wave buffeted the ship, she called her doctor and said (unconsciously echoing a remote predecessor) "Go up at once Sir James, and give the Admiral my compliments and tell him the thing must not occur again"."

Barbara Tuchmann

– The Proud Tower

FRIENDSHIP CIRCI A New Expression of Toch by WA Barnes

Elsewhere in this issue, the Director refers to the splendid pioneer work on 'Friendship Circles' heing carried out in the NE. Bill Barnes, Regional Chairman, here gives a full account of the project from first thoughts to present achievement and hopes for the future. This is a fine example of what the author aptly describes as 'working on one of the frontiers of human need'. — Editor

The story starts in July 1974 in North Tees Hospital. Ann Crouch, the Voluntary Help Organiser, received an internal memo from a consultant psychiatrist, in which he asked her to consider the provision of day centres, run on a voluntary basis, to help in the rehabilitation of his patients in their recovery stage. Ann spoke to us.

The project was discussed by us at some length and we decided that:

We should try to set up three day centres (at Stockton, Thornaby and Billingham).

Each centre should open for two days a week from approximately 10 am to 4 pm.

Each centre should cater for about 20 patients per session.

Cardinal aims of the centres were to promote independence and resource-fulness in the patients and to re-integrate them with the local community. Thus they needed to be run very much on a do it yourself basis and had to be involved closely with local activities. We began to look for premises where self catering was possible and where activities other than ours occurred regularly. Since we wanted the centres to be accessible, centrally situated church halls and community centres were sought.

By January 1975 we had drawn several blanks in Central Stockton, where we had planned to set up the first centre. Then someone suggested we try St Marks, Fairfield. This church hall was on a suburban housing estate and poorly served by public transport but as a building for our purpose it couldn't have been better, Discussions began with the vicar, Rev Gabriel Dewhurst, and with his PCC. Then the real snags began to emerge. Neither the health service nor the social services could agree as to who should accept overall authority and responsibility

for insurances and the cost of heating and lighting. Until these problems were resolved, there was no point in pursuing the venture. Our naive assumption that, as the service had been requested by a hospital consultant, the hospital would take responsibility was a non starter! Apparently, after care for psychiatric patients is a function of social services (not health services). Local social services were not too interested since they had not made the initial request and, in any case, had no funds!

All those planning the centres had now to face a lengthy period of frustration but Toc H was responsible for getting the scheme on the move again. Adrian Dudman accepted on behalf of Toc H responsibility for providing leadership and for the insurance cover needed and also offered some short term financial help. So we were off. Both hospital and social services then offered an initial grant.

We fixed our opening date for Monday 3 November 1975.

We needed helpers and these were quickly found. Looking back, one wonders how it was done, but it is a fact that volunteers were found and that out of the sheer quality of their service and dedication, a new Toc H venture was successfully launched. Without their love and caring, their kitchen duties so well done, we would not have been able to keep these day centres open.

On 3 September 1975 we were so far advanced in our planning and preparations that it was agreed that the Steering Committee should set up a representative Management Committee of 11 members. This Committee elected Bill Barnes of Toc H to be their Chairman, which in itself, identified the level and range of responsibility that Toc H had taken on.

Thus we were readied and a few basic rules were initiated. (See note below). Some of these rules led to a measure of

resistance to the scheme because at the hospital day centre patients had free transport and free meals.

Still, on Monday 3 November 1975, we opened our first Centre for one day per week. All helpers were asked to attend and to be early. On this first morning community nurses chauffeured some of the members from their homes, while others used public transport. What a day it was! The goodwill was tremendous, our members came shyly and with some trepidation, but before we departed for our homes at the end of the day, we had started on the way to becoming a family.

A note of the activities on the third day of opening shows that they included washing up, preparing meals, basket weaving, knitting, embroidery, bingo, conversation and family discussion. The last item has become an integral part of each day's events. The leader starts the ball rolling and members are encouraged to talk, offer opinions etc. There is always plenty of humour and laughter.

We were launched and well founded. For over two years now, the Stockton Toc H Friendship Circle (a name chosen by the members of the Day Centre) has continued to involve members and helpers in creating a caring and loving family. 'Success' and 'Failure' are words we never use, because they are just not relevant to the project. What we do know is that the second circle was opened in Thornaby



exactly one year later ie on 3 November 1976.

It is interesting to note that, as in so many of our activities, these two Friendship Circles have basically the same 'modus operandi' but their character is different. That difference we greatly value, because we are not concerned with a mass product. We are concerned with people and no two people are alike.

What then do we do? As mentioned earlier we have a wide range of activities reclaiming wool for knitting into squares or making draught excluders, craftwork, embroidery, calendars, stuffed dolls etc. All this work was developed at the request of the members. In the early days they brought their own knitting and 'gossip', and food plus a bit of bingo was enough. Soon work became important to us all and we were busy planning for a sale of work, which eventually raised £140. The money, useful as it is, was not the most important result of our work. What was important was that some 20 or 30 people who had joined in an exercise of faith, none of whom had medical or specialist knowledge had so welded themselves into a living fellowship, or family, that they overcame fear, shyness, uncertainty, loneliness, and were able to respond to leadership and cope with the planning, the organising and the selling at the sale, where they had to meet, serve and talk to their customers. One cannot in words describe the joy and trans-



formation that this experience gave to some who had until recently relied on the hospital for all support.

To supplement the members' work, we run a programme of interesting talks, out visits, demonstrations, music, 'singalongs' and lots of talking together to create a true family relationship.

There is so much that can be written about such a project as this, because it is a microcosm of life: each coming together brings a new experience. Suffice to say that in this job Toc H is working on one of the frontiers of human need. There is no room for pride, only humility, in that we have been given the opportunity to serve and spread the gospel without preaching it.

Friendship Circles have given a number of people a chance to meet and work within the framework of Toc H. We are a Movement which speaks for itself when we once involve people in our work. The Toc H Friendship Circles have spoken through action and some 12 members have joined Toc H because of them.

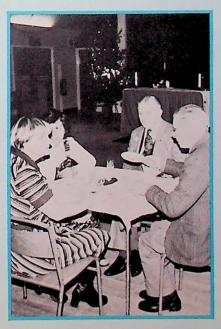
Looking forward, we can see problems. The first is that we have not yet realised our targets of three centres each opening two days per week. Still two centres opening one day a week have been opened and we talk hopefully of opening a third. To realise these hopes, we need voluntary helpers and money.

The helpers we confidently expect to recruit, but all our work needs money and we have not yet established a firm financial base. The Cleveland County Social Services Department has contributed approximately half our money needs and is examining with the Area Health Authority the possibility of accepting us as a 'joint financed scheme'. If this comes about, we shall be very happy, as part of the philosophy behind the running of the Circles is that money raised by the members should be ploughed back to keep costs low and provide outings, cheaper meals, even transport as and when possible.

We firmly believe that money should be a by product of the life of the Day Centres, not a prime objective.

However daunting the future looks, I am minded of the words 'Go forth in faith – Be of good courage'. This we do!





Note

Basic rules initiated by the Management Committee

The name 'patients' to be replaced by 'members'.

Members to decide programme content.

Members to share in both day to day
running and the general management of the centre.

Members to plan and help cook meals.

Members — as far as possible — to
make their own transport
arrangements.

Both members and volunteer helpers to contribute 25p a day towards cost of meals and other refreshments.



Lionel Holden, a member of Worthing (Men's) Branch, and a Central Councillor, has launched a flashing lights scheme in Worthing. So far, some 20 bicycle lamps have been converted by the third and fourth form boys of West Tarring High School. These boys have also volunteered to visit every three months to make battery changes.



Accrington (Lancs) Joint Branch joined with the other friends of Hargreaves House to run a party for the 21 mentally handicapped children who live in this Oswaldtwistle home. Each child had a gift and all enjoyed the carol singing by lamplight of the 3rd Accrington Girls' Brigade.

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In October: Mary J McCallum (Coupar Angus)

In November: Hubert B Beall (Springfields District)

In December: 'Robbie' Robson (Coney Hall), Les Vernon (Barkingside), A Alma Virgo (Brighton), Horace E West (Dartford), Edna V White (Chepstow)

In January: Lily M Bayley (Wolverhampton), James A Best (St Thomas-Exeter), William E Bird (Iver), Bill Brenchley (Strode Park & Herne), Enid M T Cabot (Barnstaple), William H Crawley (Ilminster), Maurice Ellis (Exeter), Lilian Gilyead (Headingley), Clifford J H Harding (Saltford), Elsie I Hedley (Scunthorpe), G Fred Jeal (Andover), William C Jones (Gloucester), Kenneth G Kingham (Wellingborough), J Douglas Kirkpatrick (Malvern), Lily Maxted (Headingley), Louise M Milburn (Carlisle), Florence A Miller (Springfields District), G H 'Appy' Nash (Whitstable), Harold E Stephens (St Helier), Amelia Tindall (Saughall)

In February: Ben G Chatterton (Louth), H 'Bert' Crookhall (South East Essex District), Anne Easter (Cromer), Myra Hood (Leeds), Reginald J McPhee (Fleet), Annie M Thompson (Bakewell) Alexander S Walker (Margate) George Henry ('Appy) Nash, President of Whitstable Branch and formerly of Dartford Branch, died suddenly on 23 January just as he was preparing to attend a Toc H meeting. He was 88.

'Appy was a founder member of Toc H and a friend of Tubby Clayton. In World War 1, as a platoon sergeant in the Rifle Brigade, he was with Lieutenant Gilbert Talbot when he was mortally wounded at Sanctuary Wood: Mr Talbot died in his arms. During that war, 'Appy was awarded the DCM and the Croix de Guerre.

'Appy died only hours after attending the funeral of Bill Brenchley, another well known Kent member. Bill was founder and chairman of Strode Park and Herne Branch, many of whose members are residents of Strode Park, a home for the physically handicapped. Bill himself had been in a wheelchair for many years.

Rev R J (Jim) Davies died on 20 February at the age of 73. He joined Toc H staff in the Yorkshire Area more than 45 years ago and in 1956 succeeded Herbert Leggate as Administrative Padre. He combined this work with his parish duties and in 1963 pressure of work in the Church forced him to resign his appointment with us. His insight into the 'profound simplicity of Toc H' was unsurpassed. The setting up of the Bordon Company and the publication of The Still Centre were largely due to him. He will be sorely missed by many.

Harold Stephens, St Helier (Jersey)
Branch, died on 14 January aged 82. He was a man heavily involved in voluntary community work throughout his life and the list of the organisations to which he gave many years of distinguished service is a very long one. He had been a highly regarded Toc H member for almost 50 years. We send our warm sympathy to Mrs Stephens and to all his family and friends.

Louise Milburn was a much loved member of the Carlisle Branch and North Lakes District Treasurer at the time of her death in January. She had been a member (originally Tottenham Branch) since 1931, had taken her full share of branch and District offices and had always been an active worker for the Movement. Her branch friends say 'she has always been a perfect example of our idea of Toc H'.

Dorothy Bell of Sudbury, Suffolk, died on 12 February at the age of 85. For many years she was an active member of the Sudbury Branch. Advancing years and increasing frailty eventually persuaded her to take over the less exacting role of builder but her lively interest in the Movement continued unabated to the end. She will be much missed by her Sudbury Branch friends.

We give thanks for their lives



Several hundred people gathered for the third 'It's a Knockout' competition organised by the Bingham (Notts) Branch. The large crowd showed the growing popularity of this annual event. In the picture the final competition winners (Bingham Tire Company) are doing their level best in the tyre stacking event.

YOUR LETTERS

RACE RELATIONS

In an otherwise admirable 'Viewpoint' in the January *Point Three* (just to hand in our branch!) the editor adds his own confusion to the subject of immigration by implying that 'large scale immigration' is 'government policy'. Taking the two sentences together there can be no other interpretation.

No Government has ever had a policy of large scale immigration. Immigration from the New Commonwealth was uncontrolled when our industry was hungry for labour and unemployment ran at less than 1.5%. From the Commonwealth Immigration Act of 1962 onwards successive Governments have sought to reduce it. It is true that when the Conservatives returned to office in 1970 they did two things. Being men of honour they immediately increased the number of United Kingdom passport holders allowed to enter annually. Secondly, they introduced the Immigration Act, 1971 which removed any special privileges of Commonwealth citizens and put them on the same level as aliens. Apart from dependents of people already settled here and UK citizens, entry is only for a limited period. Work permits are issued for a year or less and are only issued or renewed if there is no suitable other worker available for the job. After four years in 'approved employment' the worker may then apply to be allowed to remain. In applying these rules there is no distinction between, say, the USA and India, and the USA easily outdistances India in these stakes.

There are two areas of real difficulty. The bulk of arrivals from the New Commonwealth and Pakistan are dependants of people allowed to settle here in the past. It is necessary to be specific: by reducing immigration is it meant that men allowed to make a home and living here cannot bring their wives to join them when the home is ready? The other is more controversial and policy has dithered over it. Governments have seen arranged Asian marriages as a concealed means of bringing men from India and Pakistan who would otherwise have no right of entry. After a long period of saying 'no' to these men the present Government has relented. There is room for doubt here, I think, but there should be no doubt among rational people that the task ahead is to reconcile as your four young people said - to inform ourselves of the true position, and face up to our responsibilities to our nonwhite neighbours.

Henry Beard Stow on the Wold, Glos

TAKING OFFICE

One of the things which struck me about the 1977 Council was the lack of candidates for election to the Central Executive, the number even falling short of the requirement agreed in 1976. At the time I was prepared to accept this apparent disinterest with the thought that many of the people who would have stood were already serving or offering to serve at Regional level. Recent events in this Region however have made me wonder whether I was correct in this assumption. Our own Regional Executive has eight elected members and yet out of the whole of the Region only this number of people could be found for nomination, thus aborting any election. I realise that eight out of 3,000 is marginally better than 11 from nearly 12,000, but the fact remains that in both cases the membership were seemingly apathetic to the needs of the Movement. I am well aware that for many of us time is at a premium, especially when we have other interests, nevertheless I think we should be worried about the situation. There is no disgrace in standing for office and not getting elected: this happens all the time where the democratic process is working normally. If therefore we truly believe that this is a membership Movement let us reinforce that belief by taking a significant part in its stewardship.

John R Morgan Chairman, South Eastern Region

DOMINIC (See June and December 1977 issues)

Lourdes House, the recently established holiday home for handicapped children and their families at Westbrook, Margate, was officially opened by His Grace Archbishop Michael Bowen, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark, on 11 February.

Priests from neighbouring parishes in Thanet, Sisters from nearby convents and representatives from local Catholic schools gathered with the Trustees in the lounge of Lourdes House for the Mass of Dedication celebrated by the Archbishop. The Mass was served by Benedict Anderton, younger brother of Dominic whose death three years ago had inspired the venture. His Grace, who spoke of the handicapped children who would come and find happiness and love in Lourdes House, unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion; it had been specially executed by Sister Concordia OSB of Minster Abbey, near Ramsgate.

I attended the afternoon reception representing Toc H and was

able to have a chat with the Archbishop on our involvement. I found him a most charming and warm person. I can only wish Jean Anderton all the best in her venture, knowing that she will give many parents and children the happiness they deserve. I wish to thank all those Toc H members who have supported this cause. Carry on with the good work Toc H!

Fred Cooper
Thanet DEC Chairman

WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT

Temporarily overlooking our geographical position east of Birmingham, arrangements were made for the members of Sudbury Branch to pay their annual carol singing visit on December 12 to the St Josephs RC Home for mentally handicapped girls with whom we have established an excellent relationship.

After much heart searching we decided to approach Rev Mother, explain our dilemma and seek permission to use their private chapel for the Ceremony. Our request was granted immediately, and, to our great joy, the Sisters asked to be allowed to join us.

At 8.40pm — and almost voiceless! — we went to the chapel which had been prepared for us by the Sisters. In that beautiful setting we gave thanks for the work and witness of Toc H around the world.

For us all at Sudbury, the 1977 Ceremony will long be remembered as one of the most inspiring and meaningful observances of the World Chain of Light

G M (Cobby) Dyer Sudbury, Suffolk

CAPITATION FEES

In February *Point Three* we are told that there was a consensus among the members of the Central Executive Committee that the time was ripe for introducing a capitation fee.

Missing from this report was the constitutional authority for imposing a branch levy, under which the Executive purports to be acting. I hope the remission will be remedied. At the same time perhaps we could be told whether it is intended to expel branches which do not meet the levy. Unless some sanction is imposed, the 'levy' becomes no more than a target: so we are no further forward. Bye-law 2 (2) authorises the imposition of an annual contribution upon each member. When this power is used, bye-law 2 (4) comes into operation, and this provides that a member in arrears ceases to be a member. We cannot

impose the first requirement without using the second. So far as I can see, there is no authority for imposing an annual contribution upon a branch. This is no mere legalistic quibble. The provisions of the Charter and bye-laws, agreed with the Charity Commission before receiving the assent of the Privy Council, are designed to safeguard the Movement against fundamental changes which would vitiate the intentions of the founders.

This proposal, if accepted, would, for the first time, make membership dependent upon size of income. It would no longer be open to everyone, irrespective of age, job, income, family commitments, and so on. We would be imposing a rule, instead of challenging people to accept personal responsibility in an area of life where this challenge is most needed. Toc H is the only organisation or Movement I know which refuses to impose rules on commitment or behaviour of members. We seek to change attitudes by challenging people to face honestly their responsibility for others and for the reality they believe in.

I believe this suggestion is so divisive in terms of people that it would destroy the Movement as we know it.

Tom Gulliver
Portishead, Bristol

In suggesting a capitation fee of £12 per annum in 'The Director's Bin' in February *Point Three* was Ken writing with his head in the clouds or his tongue in his cheek?

We have been struggling for years to extract an average of £5 per head from the membership, without much success. To attempt to extract a capitation fee which, by definition, would be compulsory, could only result in the branch structure as we know it vanishing overnight. Few members could afford such a fee personally on top of branch expenses and there would be a general reluctance to convert branches into full time money raising machines to the detriment of much good work which is carried out at local level.

Howard Hall Margate, Kent

As one who many years ago voted in faith for the abolition of the capitation fee, it is with considerable dismay that I read that the CEC is now, erroneously in my opinion, considering its re-introduction. Unfortunately if the level is set too low, there is the danger that many branches will only raise the sum demanded of them

MONEY MATTERS

LEGACIES TO TOCH

In making a will everyone will be anxious to avoid payment of Capital Transfer Tax, to the extent that this is possible. The Finance Act states that Capital Transfer Tax is payable on any chargeable transfer of value (whether money, property or goods) that reduces the estate of the person making the transfer and is intended to benefit someone else.

An important exemption concerns transfers to charities and as a result of this Legacies of up to £100,000 in cash, property or goods are not subject to capital transfer tax. This means that a

legacy to Toc H is deducted from your estate before the tax liability on your estate is calculated.

Each year we receive an average of £24,000 by way of legacies and if this source of income is to continue then we, the present members and builders, must make provision in our will for Toc H NOW so that the 'good thing thus begun' will continue. The usual wording is:

'I give unto Toc H of Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks the sum of Pounds Sterling free of all duties. And I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Toc H shall be sufficient discharge for the legacy which is to be applied for the general purposes of Toc H.'

If you wish your legacy to be for a specific purpose then it must be stated in your will otherwise all legacies are for the general funds of the Movement.

George Barnett

and assume they have thereby fulfilled their duty to the Family Purse; if the level is set too high, then half the branches will close.

However well intentioned a piece of kite flying, one must question the psychology of attempting to double the target for the Family Purse at a time of national incomes restraint. Indeed one gets the impression that the CEC is attempting to emulate certain Trade Union practice where double the figure they hope to achieve is demanded! I wonder whether the CEC has given consideration to the following questions:

a) At what stage does big brother wield the big stick or rather pen to erase the branch which has failed to meet its capitation fee in full? Will the members be decapitated?

b) What of the small struggling branch whose members are already giving sacrificially in excess of the current target? This could be the straw that breaks the camel's back and no quotations please about corporate efforts to raise the cash. Some have not got enough active members or the facilities to run a runmage sale while bring and buy stalls merely demand money from the same pockets — oft times resulting in buying something which one does not really want at a price one would not dream of paying in the commercial market.

I suppose that the only redeeming feature would be that husbands and wives would no longer have words as to who would be the first to have the privilege of reading *Point Three*.

In order to undo the damage caused in the past by the slovenly way in which we have failed to alert the membership to their financial responsibilities to the Movement, some of us are trying to meet branch members on their home

ground and explain the reality of members contributing a minimum of a day's income per annum to the Family Purse. At least this method accentuates the concept of each contributing according to his or her means and would match our increased giving with increases in our living standards. Our task is not made any easier by having the ground knocked from under our feet by these latest proposals.

There is a limit to the amount that can be squeezed from one lemon and we might better be employed trying to, improve the supply of lemons. Maybe it would prove more fruitful for the CEC to be considering action along these lines. If we are too embarrassed to discuss money in Toc H, then I believe that we ourselves have not yet understood what full commitment to Toc H is all about. I am convinced that once we have got our commitment right, talk of capitation fees will no longer be necessary.

Alan Hawkins SE Regional Steward Watford, Herts

Note

Without entering the debate may I simply point out that the Central Executive is not at this stage putting forward any firm proposals. The question of a capitation fee was raised as part of a wider discussion on our financial position and the Executive felt it right to 'test the temperature of the water', so to speak, before deciding whether to submit a formal proposal to Council. The comments made in these letters, together with comments made to the Director by Councillors, will be considered by the Executive in May.

Editor

The Wider Family

Southern Africa

For some years, Toc H in South Africa has provided bursaries for advanced education. One of the people helped in this way has recently completed high school and teachers' training college education. Alec Bullivant, Hon Administrator Toc H (Southern Africa) has passed on to us the following touching letter.

'I feel compelled to write these few words to you, although I have been so quiet for a long time . . . I was not even sure that we would sit for examinations, but because God is a great man we were able to write without disturbance.

'I am sure that you still remember that this is my last schooling year. So I thank you warm heartedly for the burden which you took of giving me the bread of life which is education. Now and forever I will be recognised by people through the promotion which I got from Toc H Club, the club which has made me what I am today.

'May the good Lord bless and keep you till Jesus Christ our Saviour comes. Thanking you very very much.'

Poperinge

Brian Goldsworthy, BAOR Development Officer, has sent us news of an exciting 'Old House' development.

'Tea is something close to the heart of most people but to have it made by 15 Belgians is a very different matter. Only in Poperinge would you have a pot of tea made with five dessertspoonsful...!

'Such are the Kitcheners, a number of students who have formed, through the Old House, a group which meets on certain Fridays for discussion. In January I was invited to meet this group and I spent a weekend of fascinating talk, of friendship and fun. A little concerned as to my distinct lack of Flemish I was delighted to be spoken to in near perfect English: we spent four and a half hours in very intense discussion about my work and about Toc H (especially its Christian aspect). I was stretched and I enjoyed it. This group embark on work such as visiting and entertaining old people. They also intend adopting a home for parentless children . . . I was caught up in their enthusiasm.

'The group discussion was only part of the weekend. John Forbes and I were invited to the homes of some of the group and the hospitality was remarkable, the parents eager to learn English and to be able to join in.

'With visits to the Pool of Peace and to Ypres, with Sunday evening in the Memorial Church, I rounded off a weekend of great fun... Monday came and I was sad to leave. My last memory is of an 18 year old lad called Rick coming to the house on his way to work and asking if he could become a member — the first to come and ask but certainly not the last.

'When you go to Poperinge, try the Kitcheners' tea — it's awful but it's the start of something good!'

India

Some years ago, West Worthing (Women's) Branch formed a special link with Trivandrum Branch in Southern India. Recently, Trivandrum has sent them a copy of their latest branch appeal which aims to provide a small chapel at Seelottukonam — a very beautiful spot in a neighbourhood so poor that they have not been able to build themselves a place of worship. The real enthusiasm for the project is so great that the land has already been donated and enough money raised for about one quarter of the building work. The work is keenly supported by local people regardless of caste or creed. If anyone has ideas for helping to raise the balance now urgently required (some £800) they should contact Mrs D L Kirman, 26 Wilmington Court, Bath Road, Worthing BN11 3QN. Meanwhile, we send our congratulations to Trivandrum for their compassion and courage in taking on this commitment while they are still heavily engaged with local relief work following the recent cyclone disaster.

FOR YOUR DIARY ALISON HOUSE

The holiday weeks between 20 June and 14 July are open to all and there are still some vacancies. Enquiries and applications, please, to: Elsa M Perrin, 39 Elmar Road, Tottenham, London N15 5DH.

Members write regularly to us to say how much they enjoy the Warden Manor reunion weeks. There are some places still for the period 2-9 September. Enquiries and bookings, please, to: Frank Howlett, Alison House, Intake Lane, Cromford, Matlock DE4 3RH.

DOR KNAP

The Dor Knap Committee has decided that in view of the planned mammoth Cotswold Festival (25 to 27 August), there will be NO OPEN DAY at Dor Knap on the Spring Bank Holiday Monday this year. We all hope that folk who usually make this Spring Bank Holiday visit will instead join the happy crowd at the Summer Bank Holiday Festival. Full details are in the leaflet enclosed in your January Point Three.

COTSWOLD QUIET DAY

Following a most worthwhile Quiet Day last Summer at Chalford Hill, there will be another this year, on Sunday 25 June, at Kemble House, Kemble, near Cirencester. Our thinking will be led by John Hull. We shall start at midday, and close with an evening service in Kemble Church at 6 pm. Cost 25p — bring your own picnic lunch. Full details and map from John Mitchell, Kyrle House, Edde Cross Street, Ross-on-Wye. The Day is open to any members or friends.

Photo: Gravesend and Dartford Reporter



Recently Gravesend Men's and Women's Branches mounted the town's first ever 'mini handi', helped by members' wives and friends, the Kent Projects Group and St Mary's Church Youth Club. 24 variously handicapped young people shared in the entertainment. This included a 'Disco' (with disc jockey Titus Okere of the Project Group), a buffet supper and - thanks to generous gifts from local people, shops and industrial groups - prizes for winners and presents for all guests (including those prevented by illness from being present). The Mayor of Gravesend (Mrs Freda Shields JP) took part in the whole evening.

In the picture, the Mayor poses with guests and helpers.

EDGMOND KEEP BUSY

Edgmond Branch, in Mid Salop District, have had a very busy period. Over 150 senior citizens sat down to listen to an accordion band and the Hadley Orpheus Male Voice Choir, when the branch ran a New Year Party at Harper Adams Agricultural College. After 40 prizes had been given away, cake and sherry were served to the Toc H guests for the evening. Over half of the partygoers were collected in mini buses laid on by Toc H. The event was financed by a 'Record Fair for Christmas' which raised £330. The branch also went carol singing around the village at Christmas and the money was distributed to local charities.



The photos show members of Toc H and the public at Edgmond's Christmas Fair and part of the large audience of senior citizens at their New



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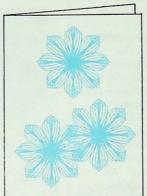
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SMALL ADS

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 3p a word (minimum 30p) to Point Three Magazine. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks. Telephone: 0296 623911.

Christian friendship/marriage introductions. All ages. Nationwide. Also single holidays. Holyland tour (Sept 1978). Weekend house parties. C F Fellowship, Dept/B23, Edenthorpe, Doncaster. (SAE).



Bruges, Belgium. Hotel Jacobs (established 50 years) welcomes Toc II parties and individual visitors to this lovely old city within easy reach of other famous cities of art, and of the coast. Comfortable, modernised hotel.

Quiet situation. Parking. English spoken. Strongly recommended. Bed and breakfast only. Mr Jules Lietaert, Hotel Jacobs, Baliestraat 1, Bruges 8000. Telephone: (050) 398 31/32.

Thornleigh the Lakeland Christian family hotel and conference centre. Sea front, with hills to the rear. Beautiful and comfortable. Food good and generous. Book your happy holiday now, or send stamp for brochure and conference details to the Manager, Thornleigh (P3), Grange-Over-Sands, Cumbria. Telephone: Grange - (044 84) 2733.

Perranporth, Cornwall. Toc H holiday chalet (wooden) for self-catering holidays, not 5 star accommodation; 2 bedrooms, sleeps 6, summer season £15. Leaflet on receipt of SAE to Fred Whybra, Heartis Farm, Copper Hill, Troon, Camborne, Cornwall. 8 July - 12 Aug, 2-9 Sept booked.

Wanted Arthur Mee's 'King's England' and County Book of Cambridge and Lincolnshire, also any old books and photographs of windmills. II C Collins, Mixbury Cottages, St Georges Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

Wanted film books, mags, annuals: jazz books and 8mm films super/standard. Bob Starling, 4 Barrow Road, Odd Down, Bath, Avon.

Raise funds quickly, easily. Superb ball-pens, combs, key fobs, diaries, etc gold stamped to your requirements. Details: Northern Novelties, Bradford BD1 3HE.

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